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Message Text

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11
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

TRSE-00 ACDA-07 OMB-01 EB-07 /077 W
---------- 101591
R 150648Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6369
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, EAID, PFOR, SA, PK
SUBJECT: SAUDI AID TO PAKISTAN

REF: ISLAMABAD 11081

1. ON NOVEMBER 11 THE SAUDI DAILY OKAZ RAN A SHORT ITEM DATELINED ISLAMABAD AND SOURCED ONLY TO "NEWS AGENCIES" ON THE SUBJECT OF SAUDI AID TO PAKISTAN. ACCORDING TO THIS STORY THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF AID TO BE GIVEN IS DOLLARS 1.1 BILLION, ABOUT EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN THE CIVILIAN AND MILIATRY SECTORS. THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE ARTICLE FOLLOWS:
ISLAMABAD - NEWS AGENCIES. IT WAS ANNOUNCED BY A WELL INFORMED SOURCE IN ISLAMABAD THAT THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA HAS AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE ONE BILLION AND ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FOR PARTICIPATING IN VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND MILITARY PROJECTS IN PAKISTAN.
THE SOURCE ADDED THAT KING KHALID MADE THAT DECISION DURING HIS SHORT STATE VISIT TO PAKISTAN LAST MONTH.
THE AMOUNT OF 560 MILLION DOLLARS WILL MAINLY BE ALLO-CATED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW NUCLEAR CENTER AT SHASMA. PART OF THAT AMOUNT WILL BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUC-TION OF A ROAD ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED KILOMETERS LONG CONNECTING KARACHI HARBOR WITH THE NORTHERN PART OF THE
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COUNTRY. THE REMAINING AMOUNT OF THE CONTRIBUTION, ABOUT

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FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS, WILL BE USED FOR THE RENEWAL OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. END TEXT.

2. THE INFORMATION ON CIVILIAN AID IS CONSISTENT WITH EMBASSY ISLAMABAD'S PREVIOUS REPORTING. THE TOTAL FIGURE CITED STRIKES US AS EXTREMELY GENEROUS IN THE LIGHT OF THE SAUDI RECORD TO DATE IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO NON-ARAB COUNTRIES--THOUGH PAKISTAN IS ADMITTEDLY A SPECIAL CASE. WITH THIS STORY AS A LEVER WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PRY SOME MORE DETAILED INFORMATION OUT OF SAUDI OFFICIALS WHO ARE GENERALLY RETICENT IN DISCUSSING SPECIFIC AID FIGURES. HORAN

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